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The Mattoon City Council is expected to approve plans and specifications for the project to construct the storm water detention basin on August 3, 2010 with bid acceptance by early September.

Flooding has affected the south side of the city for over 50 years. There have been other attempts to correct the problem proving ineffective in the long run. This project is part of a larger staged project which was the preferred solution in an Illinois Department of Natural Resources study completed for the city in 2008. The completed project will also see the construction of a conveyance ditch between 9th Street and the Jones Switch railroad line.

Wortman says, "This is an important step in a long-term process to reduce the impacts from flooding on that area of town."

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